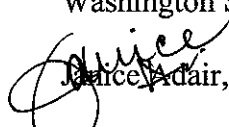




STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
PO Box 47820 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7820

April 7, 2006

TO: Kim Thorburn, Chair
Washington State Board of Health

FROM:  Denise Adair, Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Petition for Rulemaking – On-site Sewage System Remediation

The Department of Health recently received two letters, one from Lieutenant Governor Brad Owen and one from ten members of the legislature requesting changes to the Board's on-site sewage rules, chapter 246-272A WAC. The department considers both letters petitions for rulemaking to approve and register remediation technologies for on-site sewage systems.

The department recommends that the Board accept the petition for rulemaking. Rules that establish standards for approval, registration, and use of remediation technologies are very important. While the legislators' letters specifically asked for rules that approve a single type of remediation technology, the department recommends that rules must address remediation technology more generally. This approach will require extensive stakeholder work and research to consider other remediation technologies and appropriate application of these technologies and uses.

Our Wastewater Management Program staff recently met with representatives of the Pirana Aerobic Bacterial Generator technology. At that meeting, program staff committed to exploring solutions that will hopefully address the Pirana concerns in advance of rulemaking.

cc: Maryanne Guichard